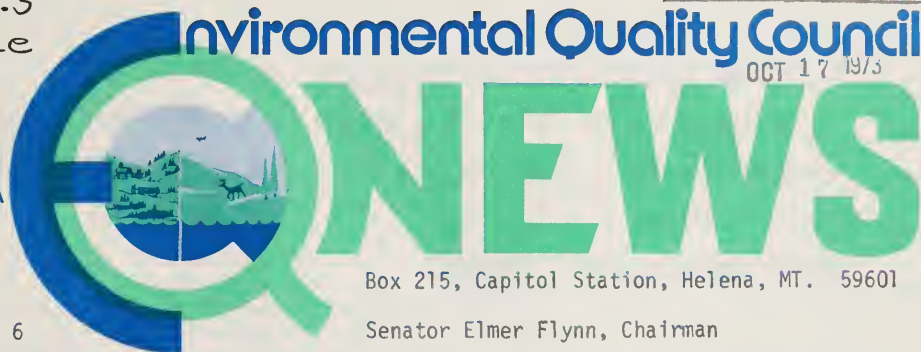


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Box 215, Capitol Station, Helena, MT. 59601

Senator Elmer Flynn, Chairman

Fletcher E. Newby, Executive Director

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LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT PLANS PUBLIC HEARING,IMPACT STATEMENT FOR PREDATOR CONTROL PROGRAM

Proposed Department of Livestock rules allowing and regulating permits for aerial hunting of coyotes and foxes will not be adopted before a public hearing is held and an environmental impact statement is issued. The change of plans was announced October 16 by William Cheney, administrator of the department's Brands Enforcement Division.

He said public response to the proposed rules for aerial hunting indicated a hearing was warranted. The date of the hearing has not yet been announced.

The department had announced September 25 in the Montana Administrative Register that it planned to make the permits available beginning November 4. Neither a public hearing nor an environmental impact statement were planned.

Cheney said the department now is preparing an environmental impact statement covering the department's entire predator control program. Plans for aerial hunting of coyotes and foxes for the protection of livestock will

be included in the predator control statement, he said.

Notice of the date and place of the hearing and the receipt of the impact statement will be printed in a forthcoming Environmental Quality Council Newsletter.

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

<u>STATE</u>			
<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Lead Agency</u>	
10-3-73	Practice of Spraying Sagebrush on State School Trust Lands. Control of big sagebrush on State of Montana School Trust Lands by aerial application.	St. Lands	D
10-5-73	Hardin-Sarpy Creek two-lane road. Begins 20 miles east of Hardin and extends north-easterly 11+ miles south of Hysham	Hwy.	N
10-11-73	Hungry Horse Weather Modification Project. Application for permit and license requested by North American Weather Consultants acting for Bonneville Power Administration. Purpose is to increase snowpack in order to permit release of additional water from the Hungry Horse Reservoir for power production.	DNR&C	D
10-12-73	Beaver Lake Timber Sale. Sale and commercial harvest of timber from the Beaver Lake area, located 4 air miles northwest of Whitefish.	DNR&C	D

<u>FEDERAL</u>			
10-10-73	Crow Ceded Area coal lease, Westmoreland Resources mining proposal. Proposed strip mining operation on Tract III of ceded area just north of Crow Reservation in southeastern Montana.	USDI/PED	D

FEDERAL

<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Lead Agency</u>	
10-1-73	Hungry Horse Cloud Seeding program. Cloud seeding project from 11/15/73 to 4/15/74 in Flathead and Lake counties, Montana directed toward maintenance of normal snowpack conditions to help alleviate a projected shortage of firm energy in the Pacific Northwest.	USDI/PED	D
C - Commented upon	St.Lands - Department of State Lands		
D - Draft statement	Hwy - Highway Department		
EW - Emergency Waiver	DNR&C - Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation		
F - Final statement	USDI - US Dept. of Interior		
N - Negative declaration	PED - Planning & Economic Development Div. - IGR		

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